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**MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO COMMITTING SOCIAL SECURITY
FRAUD ON NEW HAMPSHIRE DRIVER'S LICENSE APPLICATION**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono reports that 33-year-old Cecilio Martinez pleaded guilty in United States District Court today to two counts of social security fraud. Martinez, whose last known address was 11 Buswell Street in Lawrence, Massachusetts, also used the alias Enrique Dejesus Montijo.

On or about July 2, 1999, Martinez used a false social security number on an application for a duplicate New Hampshire driver's license. On or about February 2, 2003, he used the same false social security number on a request for a hearing to review his motor vehicle record. He filed both documents under his alias with the New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles. The social security number Martinez claimed was his was actually issued to another person by the Social Security Administration.

United States Attorney Tom Colantuono observed that the fraudulent use of another person's social security number is a prevalent form of identity theft and stated: "A crime like this can cause long-term and pervasive complications for the innocent and unwitting victim whose social security number was appropriated. It can affect that person's credit rating, their ability to obtain important documents like driver's licenses, and their ability to conduct everyday transactions. Part of the mission of the United States Attorney's Office is to protect the public by prosecuting cases like this one to hold the guilty accountable and to deter others from committing similar crimes."

A sentencing hearing was scheduled for September 29, 2003. Martinez, faces a maximum prison term of five years and a fine of \$250,000.

This case was investigated by the Office of the Inspector General for the Social Security Administration and New Hampshire State Police. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark S. Zuckerman.